

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025

UTRGV: 1201 W University Dr, Edinburg, TX 78539



Scan to read detailed descriptions of the breakout sessions and find out more about each presenter

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Check-In for Pre-Registered Attendees; Breakfast

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

Breakout Session 1 (75 min)

ROOM:
ROOM:
ROOM:

Accountability – Telling Your Story

Sabrina Walker-Hernandez, Supporting World Hope, LLC (Nonprofit Management)

Enhancing ESL Instruction with AI: Practical Tools for Engaging Learning

Dr. Irene Ramos, TCALL

Understanding Literacy in a Wider Context

Dr. Ida Acuña-Garza, South Texas Literacy Coalition

10:30 AM – 11:45 AM

Breakout Session 2 (75 min)

ROOM:
ROOM:
ROOM:

ESL Alive, Awake, and Fun*

Karen Peiser, TCALL

**Repeated in Session 3*

English for Employability: Purposeful Planning for Adult Learners

Kenya Preuninger, Pearson Education

Effective PACT (Parent And Child Together) Time

Karla Rodriguez, Educator



12:00 PM – 12:45 PM

Working Lunch & Keynote

Amanda Johnston, 2024 Texas Poet Laureate

“Examining Life Through Literacy”

The tapestry of life includes life experiences that will impact a successful acquisition of life satisfaction. Poetry writing and reading can put us in touch with our strengths, times of pain and wonder, times of promise, and forgotten smiles. It makes us think. It can reach into our hearts and awaken our emotions, thoughts and perspectives. It can inspire and provide hope in a special way.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Breakout Session 3 (60 min)

ROOM:
ROOM:

ESL Alive, Awake, and Fun*

Karen Peiser, TCALL

**Repeated from Session 2*

Financial Literacy and Budgeting

Dr. Irene Ramos, TCALL

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

Breakout Session 4 (60 min)

ROOM:
ROOM:

Motivating Reluctant Readers

Dr. Arlene Longoria, BLOOM Project

Cassidy Martinez, BLOOM Project

Teaching Civics & Citizenship

Yoelia Nava, Region One ESC – Adult Education

3:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Farewell + Door Prizes

Don't forget to visit authors and exhibitors –

Author – Roy Cervantes

Author – Elizabeth Huerta

Author – David Leija

Author – Faustino Lopez

Author – Rosa Esthela Mora

Author – David Norec

Author – Victor Vasquez

Essential Education

Just Right Reader

Literacy ConneXus

PaperPie Learning

Pearson Education

Region One ESC Adult Education